

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An exhaust gas treatment device, ~~in particular for an internal combustion engine,~~
~~preferably in a motor vehicle,~~

comprising a housing (2) and a substrate body (3) ~~which is~~
situated in the housing (2) ~~and~~ through which exhaust gases
can flow in an axial direction (5),

~~whereby~~ wherein the substrate body (3) is supported axially
by an axial bearing (6) on the housing (2) on at least one
axial end face (11),

~~whereby~~ wherein the axial bearing (6) has a supporting ring
(10), which is fixedly mounted on the housing and has a U-
shaped profile (12), ~~which is~~ open axially toward the end
face (11) of the substrate body (3),

whereby wherein the axial bearing ~~(8)~~ has a bearing ring ~~(17)~~ of a bearing material which engages in the U-shaped profile ~~(12)~~ of the supporting ring ~~(10)~~ on its axial end facing away from the substrate body ~~(3)~~ and is supported axially thereon and which is supported on the end face ~~(11)~~ of the substrate body ~~(3)~~ with its axial end facing the substrate body ~~(3)~~; and

wherein the supporting ring is fastened to an axial bottom of the housing, and the bottom is fastened to a jacket of the housing.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ is designed as a knit or a wire knit or a knit cushion or a wire knit cushion.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ supports the substrate body ~~(3)~~ axially on an edge section ~~(10)~~ which is on the outside radially of the axial end face ~~(11)~~.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

an outside cross section ~~(19)~~ of the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ is equal to or greater than an outside cross section ~~(16)~~ of the substrate body ~~(3)~~ on its end face ~~(11)~~,

an inside cross section ~~(20)~~ of the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ is smaller than the outside cross section ~~(16)~~ of the substrate body ~~(3)~~ on its end face ~~(11)~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

an outside leg ~~(13)~~ which is on the outside radially of the U-shaped profile ~~(12)~~ of the supporting ring ~~(10)~~ has on its inside radially an inside cross section ~~(15)~~ which is equal to or greater than an outside cross section ~~(16)~~ of the substrate body ~~(3)~~ on its end face ~~(11)~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the supporting ring ~~(17)~~ is at a distance axially from the end face ~~(11)~~ of the substrate body ~~(3)~~ facing it.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

an inside leg ~~(14)~~, which is on the inside radially of the U-shaped profile ~~(12)~~ of the supporting ring ~~(10)~~, is shorter axially than an outside leg ~~(13)~~ which is on the outside radially of the U-shaped profile ~~(12)~~ of the supporting ring ~~(10)~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the supporting ring ~~(10)~~ is designed as a separate component, which is fastened to the housing ~~(2)~~.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 8, wherein

the supporting ring ~~(10)~~ has an interruption ~~(21)~~ in the circumferential direction.

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the substrate body ~~(3)~~ is supported radially on the housing ~~(2)~~ by a radial bearing ~~(7)~~ along its circumference,

the radial bearing ~~(7)~~ has a bearing mat ~~(9)~~ made of bearing material surrounding the substrate body ~~(3)~~ on the outside radially, and

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ and the bearing mat ~~(9)~~ are separate components.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 11, wherein

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ and bearing mat ~~(9)~~ are spaced a distance apart from one another axially.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the substrate body ~~(3)~~ is supported axially on the housing ~~(2)~~ via the axial bearing ~~(8)~~ at least on its axial end face ~~(11)~~ on the outflow side.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ has a profile whose extent in the axial direction is greater than or approximately twice as large as its extent in the radial direction.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the dimensions of the supporting ring ~~(10)~~ and the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ are coordinated so that two legs ~~(13, 14)~~ of the U-shaped profile ~~(12)~~ of the supporting ring ~~(10)~~ support the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ on the outside radially and on the inside radially.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ is designed as a spring having a predetermined characteristic.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the bearing ring ~~(17)~~ is installed with an axial prestress.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 17, wherein

the prestress is selected so that there is a residual axial stress even during operation of the exhaust gas treatment device ~~(1)~~.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The exhaust gas treatment device according to Claim 1, wherein

the exhaust gas treatment device ~~(1)~~ is a particulate filter or a soot filter or a catalytic converter.